

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Robert A. HALLOWITZ et al.

Serial No.: 09/296,534

Examiner: R. ZEMAN

Filed: April 22, 1999

Group Art Unit: 1645

For: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS:
FOR DETERMINING A LATENT
VIRAL LOAD

26 August 2002

SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENTAssistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The following is a supplemental amendment in response to an office action dated August 16, 2001 and a communication dated June 26, 2002 (paper #18). This amendment is filed in addition to a corrected amendment filed August 26, 2002.

IN THE CLAIMS:*Please amend the claims as follow:*

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2. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 1, comprising, prior to said contacting, obtaining the resting lymphoid mononuclear cells by the steps of:
 - a) obtaining a sample cell population;
 - b) depleting the sample cell population of cells expressing cell-surface gp120; and
 - c) depleting sample cell population of cells expressing HLA-DR, whereby resting lymphoid mononuclear cells are obtained.
3. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the sample cells are depleted of gp120 expressing cells by the steps of:
 - a) contacting sample cells with gp120-specific antibodies, said antibodies conjugated to a capture moiety, under conditions effective for the antibodies to attach to gp120 on the surface of cells, thereby forming labeled-cells;